

Serial No. 10/052,686

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

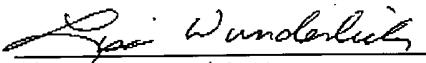
Claim 21 has been cancelled and claims 17 and 23 have been amended.
Claims 13-16 and 23 have been allowed.

Claims 17 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kastan. Claims 17 and 22 have been amended to recite that the outer race has an initial position such that the outer race is free to move in both axial directions from the initial position. Kastan fails to disclose an outer race that has an initial position such that the outer race is free to move in both axial directions from the initial position. Therefore, claims 17 and 22 as amended are felt to be patentable.

Claims 19-20 were rejected as claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Since claims 19-20 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of claim 17, they are felt to overcome the rejection in the same manner as amended claim 17.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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